#### May-June 2017 Volume 7, Issue 3



**Isaiah 6:8:** Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I; send me."

Jeremiah 8:21: For the hurt of the daughter of my people I am hurt. I am mourning.



The view from the bus: The faces of those we serve show their hurt.

#### UPDATE FROM PASTOR RUSS AND ANNE LORIA

#### The Father's Heart: established April 30, 2011



## A thankful man refreshes our souls

On the back of The Father's Heart sweatshirts is printed part of Isaiah 58:7: "Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out?"

**EVERY WEEKDAY** we go about Rochester to pick up various donations for outreaches from Thursday through Saturday. On those outreaches we see powerful things occur by the working of the Holy Spirit through all the volunteers.

People from the street also come and knock on the door of our Lake Avenue headquarters throughout the week to ask for some groceries, clothing, prayer, and encouragement.

**ONE OF** our regulars will stop just for a bag of doughnuts; we call him the doughnut man and he brings a smile to our faces and to his. We have two regular friends who have been fighting alcohol addiction and need warm socks and food for the week as they go up and down the street with their shopping carts.

At times we can get discouraged to see the same people weekly; we pray for them to be set free, yet it isn't happening for them. But when we are discouraged, God is faithful to remind us to press on, to keep our hands on the plow, and that He is working.

**RECENTLY HE** did something just like that to a man we will call Jim. Jim comes to the house frequently in his wheelchair. But it wasn't until we had talked with him for quite awhile that he shared that he struggles with fibromyalgia and neuropathy.

**DUE TO** those issues he has not been able to work for two years and has been waiting to get his disability approved. He is facing eviction and has no food in his house.

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AS JIM told his story we put our hands on him and prayed for the Lord to provide, heal and comfort. It was after our prayer that Jim spoke to us in tears how grateful he has been the past two years to come here. He told how we have never turned him away and how the Lord has provided to him through this ministry. He urged us to take care of ourselves because of how much good the Lord is doing through this ministry.

**WITH TEARS** in our eyes we looked at each other, refreshed and reminded of why we are here on

#### The Father's Heart

Our mission is to share the love of Christ with as many people as possible and try to enhance the quality of life for all to whom we witness on the streets.

We share the word of God and feed and clothe people of the streets of Rochester, bringing hope that Jesus will grab hold of their hurting, lonely, hopeless hearts to be His hands and feet extended in love!

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this earth: to serve God, to show His love to others, and to be a light.

**THANK YOU,** Jesus, that you have chosen this ministry to be Your hands and feet to show your love to the hurting. Thank you, Jesus, for encouraging us through a man's tears of thankfulness.

God bless all you saints. Russ and Anne Loria

# Extended Ministries of The Father's Heart By Frank and Diane Rivaldo

### We plant and water but the Lord increases

We were blessed by the turnout for our most recent outreach at The Pines of Perinton.

The Lord brought so many people that we had to put out more chairs to accommodate everyone. Pastor Dan gave a heart-changing Easter message anointed by the Holy Spirit, and there was beautiful worship, too.

WHILE PASTOR Dan was speaking I noticed that a man in a wheelchair was leaving before the message was done, and before the food was served. It was raining and I followed him across the parking lot to the office, which was a shelter from the rain.

I asked his name and why he had left. He said he had to catch a bus. While we waited he told me he was crippled from an accident and has had to use a wheelchair for four years.

I talked to him about Jesus and the hope we have in Him. I told him Je-

sus loves him and knows the pain he suffers. When I asked him if he has a relationship with the Lord, he replied that he used to go to church, but not anymore.

I ASKED him if he would mind if I prayed for him and he said OK. I believe a seed was planted, and I look forward to talking to him more at the next outreach. He said he would be back.

The Pinnacle Place outreach went well, too. As always, we had a big crowd of people. An amazing testimony given by a young man named Sam kept everyone's attention as he related how the Lord saved him from a life of drugs. He told how the Lord intervened in his plan to commit suicide by overdosing. It was truly a moving story and he delivered it well.

**WHEN HE** gave an invitation to re-Continued on Page 3



### November 4, 2017

"Bountiful Blessings," The Father's Heart fundraiser.

Catered by Carrabba's Italian Grill.

More information to come, but mark your calendar. You won't want to miss it! The Father's Heart Page 3



With cookie in hand, a little girl dances during worship at an outreach at The Pines of Perinton.

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ceive Christ several people responded. We prayed with them and they received Christ that night.

PLEASE PRAY for these outreaches, as well as all the other outreaches. Your prayers are very important to the success of these ministries in bringing people to Christ. We would also ask that you pray for the East Rochester outreach at Northside Park. We start again, God willing, on May 11.

Pray for good weather and a good turnout — especially from the teens who usually get together at the Magnolia Street playground — and that they would receive the message that is given and have a relationship with Jesus.

**"SO THEN** neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase" (1 Corinthians 3:7).

Extended Ministries conducts outreaches from spring to fall on the second Thursday of the month at Northside Park in East Rochester and year-round on the third Thursday of the month at Pinnacle Place apartments in Rochester and on the third Saturday of the month at The Pines of Perinton apartments. To volunteer, contact Frank and Diane Rivaldo at frivaldo@outlook.com

# **God Speaks Through the City**

Part 20: 2 Timothy 2:24-26 By a servant in Christ

## Turn the other cheek to be useful to God

The Father's Heart ministry usually takes place out on the streets or at low-income housing projects. When there is excessive rain, snow, cold, or wind, housing projects are a blessing since they provide shelter from the elements. On one very rainy evening the outreach took place indoors. We were protected from the elements but as you will see, not from the darkness of the world.

**THAT NIGHT** a brother in the Lord preached a passionate testimony praising Jesus. Although passion was in the hearts of many, the passion was polarized. Most accepted the word with love and wonder. Some rejected the word or were downright hostile.

At one extreme, one person angrily opposed us by writing a complaint to building management requesting that our ministry be banned. The reasons? The word was too loud and had too much "negativity." Negativity? The accusation was that damnation to hell was being preached and promoted.

**CONTRARY TO** that, the brother's testimony was about God's mercy in saving him. It conveyed the most positive event in the history of world: that Jesus shed His blood for us in atonement for our sins.

THE COMPLAINING person walked next to me saying something unintelligible. Thinking that the comment was directed at me, I politely stated that I did not hear it. The complaining person suddenly stopped, turned, and yelled, "I AM NOT TALKING TO YOU! I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY TO YOU!" My flesh wanted to call out the real source of negativity in the room but, thank God, I resisted the temptation.

Shortly thereafter the complaining person confronted one of our servants, reading her the riot act and claiming we were convicting people to hell. The servant very softly and factually responded that the message was not at all about that. The servant also stated the biblical fact that hell is a real place.

THE COMPLAINING person exploded in rage but our servant held her composure. After these incidents, I decided to "turn the other cheek" and "love my enemies" following Jesus' counterpoint to her wrath.

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To donate to The Father's Heart through PayPal, please go to thefathersheartroc.org and click the "Contact/Donate" tab for the PayPal icon. If you want a receipt, include your address on the optional address line and a receipt will be prepared for you.

Thank you!

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The complaining person was sitting at a table trying to convince people to sign the complaint (without great success). I lovingly offered to provide food or groceries. No answer, just a scowl.

I DISTANCED myself from this individual and approached people waiting in line. A quiet person stood in line sporting various detailed tattoos, two of them of little black cats. Trying to start a conversation, I asked if she had pet cats. She seemed very uncomfortable answering.

As I backed away, I noticed she was wearing an upside-down cross, which helped me connect the dots. Black cats are often used as tattoos to depict witchcraft, paganism, and satanic worship as represented by the upside-down cross.

"THE CAT Lady" eventually sat on a table to eat the dinner we served and struck a conversation with one of the servants. While I joined the conversation, she was sharing how she worships and is devoted to Satan. She said Satan demands worshippers to be all about themselves,

### **Outreach needs**

**Clothing:** Men's and women's jeans and shorts.

**Hygiene supplies:** Toothpaste. **Soup bus:** Ketchup and mustard.

Spiritual food: Bibles.

Donations can be dropped off at The Father's Heart headquarters, 678 Lake Avenue, Wednesday through Friday from 12 noon to 5:30 p.m. For information, call (585) 472-4331.



A servant on her knees in prayer at Andrews Terrace.

internally focused, not relying on any superior being for counsel.

That seemed a contradiction given that this counsel supposedly came from Satan. As she shared some of what she "teaches" others as a Satan worshipper, we questioned her misguided ideas. She remained steadfast about her beliefs, at times quoting from the "Satanic Bible" and its late author Anton LaVey. She proceeded to share his quote: "If you are going to be a sinner, be the best sinner you can be..."

I APPROACHED her a bit later with that very disturbing thought still in mind asking, "If someone kills a person brutally, is the next step to kill others more brutally?" I did not get an answer, just a blank stare.

Her quote can be contrasted to 1 John 3:8: "Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning." Not surprisingly her sin quote excludes the second part of 1 John 3:8, "The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil."

**UNLIKE ANDRE,** the tough man from Jefferson Avenue (God Speaks Through the City, Part 19, in the

March-April 2017 issue) who yielded to prayer, these two people were more hardened. We shared the truth with them, their ideas were "gently" rebuked, and they were prayed for. Paul provided Timothy godly guidance for these difficult situations:

"AND A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will" (2 Timothy 2:24-26).

LOVE YOUR enemies. Turn the other cheek (do not be retaliatory). Be gentle to all and in humility correct those in opposition. God spoke through the city setting a very high bar. But purge ourselves we must, as we strive to be vessels for His use. After all, by His amazing grace God may grant even the most fallen repentance so that they may know His truth. Amen.



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